

27th March 1930]

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ The Forest service is one of the Imperial services which is under the control of the Secretary of State and not under the control of the local Government.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member since when this question has been under correspondence between the local Government and the Imperial Government, in what stage the correspondence is and whether he can tell us when the question is likely to be settled ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ I cannot say when the question will be settled.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know when the question was last discussed ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ I am afraid I do not know. I must ask for notice.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ The number of Europeans has fallen from 43 to 41 on the 1st January 1930. I want to know why there has not been a corresponding increase in the number of Indians. May I know whether these vacancies have been caused by the retirement of Europeans and have not therefore been filled up ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ I must ask for notice of the question.”

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Appointment of the Commissioners of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 1652 Q.—Mr. M. BALASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the term of office of the Commissioners of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Board expires shortly ;

(b) whether the Government propose to consult the Madras Services Commission or not regarding the appointment to the Board ; and

(c) whether the Government have received any applications written or oral from persons belonging to the self-respect movement for appointment to the said offices ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The Government have no official cognizance of the personnel of the self-respect movement.

Mr. M. BALASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the Government consider that the persons who belong to the self-respect movement do not believe in idolatry and as such are disqualified to hold the post of Commissioners on the Hindu Religious Endowments Board ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I do not think they are disqualified.”

Mr. M. BALASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the Government propose to consider this question before making appointments in future ? ”

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"They have considered this question already and I do not think there is any necessity to further consider the same."

Mr. M. BALASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether the Government are aware that one of the chief objects of the self-respect movement is to put an end to idolatry and temple worship?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"That may be so. But that does not disqualify one belonging to that movement from becoming a Commissioner as the Board is concerned only with the administration of endowments."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know whether it is not inconsistent with the position of the hon. Minister to be in charge of the portfolio of Hindu Religious Endowments and at the same time not to believe in idolatry?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question does not arise."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"May I know exactly when the term of office of the Commissioners of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board is going to expire and when these offices are going to be refilled?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The term will expire on 6th April 1930. When the vacancies will be filled up I cannot say."

Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 1653 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have considered the question of paying contributions out of provincial revenues to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board and have arrived at any decision thereon?

A.—No decision has been arrived at as yet.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"With reference to the answer given to this question may I know how long this matter has been under consideration?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It has been under consideration for over two years, but it has not been possible to arrive at a decision early, considering that there is an alternative proposal that the collection of dues to the Endowments Board should be treated as part of land revenue and also that the Hindu Religious Endowments Board should be provincialized."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether Government will take steps to waive the recovery of contributions to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I cannot give an undertaking."

Mr. M. BALASUBRAHMANYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether there is a proposal to divide the Hindu Religious Endowments Board into two bodies one to be vested with executive functions and the other judicial?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"That is the proposal to be embodied in the new Bill. It is still under consideration."